

Syrian parties discuss anti-Israeli action

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian political parties discussed ways of rallying Arab opposition to Israel Monday and state-run newspapers criticized a visit to the region planned by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. The National Progressive Front, met here, before the U.S. State Department announced that Secretary of State George Shultz would travel to the Middle East next month to promote U.S. peace proposals for the region. The official Syrian news agency (SANA) said the front, a coalition of five groups headed by the ruling Baath Party, discussed Syria's position to rally Arab support to confront the imperialist and Zionist plots and its efforts to give priority to the Arab-Israeli conflict. "Shultz's planned tour will not be different from previous trips," the daily *Tishrin* newspaper predicted. "The U.S. secretary will not carry anything new and he will try to sell previously rejected ideas," it said. "Although the Arabs did not close the door in the face of the U.S. secretary as a goodwill gesture, Israel closed all doors in the face of any project which could achieve justice." The daily *Al Baath* newspaper said the American moves were still far from securing Arab rights.

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Jordan attends Arab aviation talks

DAMASCUS (Petra) — Jordan is attending meetings of commercial managers of the Arab Air Carriers Organisation (AACO) which began here Monday on topics and measures aimed at boosting inter-Arab cooperation in aviation. The meeting will also discuss consequences of two decisions by the U.S. government in 1987 and 1988 under which it banned the application of any tariffs in any area of the world without prior approval by the U.S. government. Representing Jordan at the meeting is a delegation from the Royal Jordanian (RJ).

Waldheim to visit S. Arabia June 4

RIYADH (R) — Austrian President Kurt Waldheim will make a four-day visit to Saudi Arabia from June 4 at the start of a Middle East tour, diplomatic sources said Monday. They said Waldheim, who will also visit the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait, will meet King Fahd and other high-ranking Saudi officials. It will be his fourth official foreign trip and his second to the Middle East since he took office in June 1986.

ASALA leader to be buried in Iraq

ATHENS (AP) — The body of Agop Agopian, slain leader of the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA), has been flown to Iraq for burial, a police spokesman said Monday. Agopian's body was shipped to Baghdad aboard a regular Iraqi flight Sunday night, said the spokesman. The ASALA leader was gunned down April 28 by a masked killer outside his home in Athens' old Phaleron suburb. According to the spokesman, the ASALA leader was born Hariton Takoshian, and his parents, Macardic and Siranoush Takoshian, still live in Mosul in northern Iraq.

A tired but smiling Awad, who

bullets and live ammunition at dozens of Palestinians who hurled rocks at soldier and passing Israeli cars, said Dheisheh resident Saed Rasi. Israel Radio said three Palestinians were wounded. A leaflet issued by underground Palestinian leaders called

for stepped up attacks on "the Israeli enemy" and honouring martyrs Monday, the five-month anniversary of the uprising.

Palestinian leaders also called on the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip to defy occupation army order requiring more than 300,000 residents to exchange their Israeli-issued identity cards for new documents.

Demonstrations protesting the order erupted in six Gaza towns and refugee camps Sunday, and in one clash at least 23 Palestinians were injured after soldiers fired tear-gas and rubber bullets.

Palestinians said the order was issued to break a Palestinian tax boycott, one of the chief tactics of the uprising, because only those who paid all taxes would be eligible for new cards.

Also Sunday, Israel extended the closure of schools in the West Bank for another month because of continuing protests, Israel Television said. The closure means students will not return to classes in this academic year and will be lost at least five months of school, the report said.

In the Gaza Strip, the Israeli military prosecutor filed charges against four Palestinians accused of being key figures in the underground leadership of the uprising, sources said.

The four — Tawfiq Abu Khusa, Iyad Al Ashkar, Tawfiq Al Mabruk and Marwan Al Kafarna — were arrested two months ago and have been charged with writing and distributing clandestine leaflets containing directives from the United National Leadership of the Uprising in the Gaza Strip.

Washington has protested strongly against the expulsion order, and the Israeli media said U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz sent a message to Shamir asking him to withdraw it.

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Awad ordered held until hearing on expulsion

has been fasting since his arrest four days ago, was hustled out of the court after the decision. His lawyers said he had started to drink water.

The court said it would rule May 23 whether to uphold the expulsion order signed by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Awad's American-born wife, Nancy, told reporters: "We're very appreciative of whatever the U.S. government can do and if it could make Shamir change his mind that would be great."

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Amal-Hizbollah war shows no let-up; Syria issues warning

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Mortar, artillery, and machinegun fire shook Beirut's southern suburbs Monday and Syria threatened action to end the bloodshed between rival Shi'ite fighters.

Syria's head of military intelligence in Lebanon, Brigadier Ghazi Kanaan, had talks with acting Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss as fighters of the Iranian-backed Hizbollah (Party of God) and pro-Syrian Amal militia battled on in defiance of ceasefire demands.

"We have told the combatants you will force us to solve the problem if you do not agree on an end," Kanaan told reporters afterward.

Asked if Syria would deploy troops in the southern suburbs,

he said: "We hope we will not come to this, but I will not allow the situation to continue as it is."

The sound of explosions thundered across Beirut as thousands of people fled in panic to Syrian-controlled areas of the western sector of the Lebanese capital and others budded in groups in basements.

Police said 65 people were killed and 150 wounded Monday. That brought the overall toll to 154 killed and 367 wounded since the Amal-Hizbollah fighting broke out Friday.

The battle for control of Beirut's southern slums, home for an estimated 250,000 Shi'ites, also raised fears about the fate of 12 foreign hostages, most of whom are believed held by Hiz-

Amal.

Iranian and Syrian officials, including Kanaan, formed a peace committee with Hizbollah and Amal at the weekend but its ceasefire calls went unheeded.

Both sides reported that fighting was raging in new areas of the fighting suburbs.

Security sources and witnesses quoted by Reuters said Hizbollah appeared to have the upper hand but Amal was defending its strongholds in repeated attacks and counter-attacks under artillery cover.

"We don't want Amal. We don't want Hizbollah. We are tired of armed men. We want the Lebanese army. If they are not available, then let the Syrians come and end this," said a woman, taking refuge at a friend's house.

A Hizbollah spokesman said fighting was heaviest at Bourj Al Barajeb, close to the Syrian-held airport road, and in the Ghobeini, Hay Madi and Shaya districts.

Tehran has sworn it will seek revenge for its losses in the confrontation. The U.S. navy said it sank three Iranian warships and damaged three others.

Gulf shipping appears to have picked up after a lull in traffic brought about by the fighting.

U.S. warship-escorted convoys have returned to their pre-April 18 pace and Iranian navy ships have all but disappeared. Four convoys have already moved through the strait in the past week and navy officials say the escort service will continue as planned.

Some U.S. navy officers believe Iran is licking its wounds and deciding what went wrong before making the next move.

"I think they are doing what we would be doing in the same situation," the skipper of the 24,000-ton combat store ship San Jose, Captain Willard J. Halley, told the media pool aboard the USS Copeland.

President Ronald Reagan has accused Iran of laying mines to disrupt Gulf shipping. In relation to the Roberts mining, Captain Willard J. Halley, told the media pool aboard the USS Copeland.

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American navy explodes mine found in Gulf

BAHRAYN (Agencies) — U.S. navy divers exploded a mine found drifting in international waters Sunday in the northern Gulf, the first found in the area since the USS Samuel Roberts was nearly sunk by one last month.

Navy spokesman Lieutenant Commander Mark Van Dyke told a Pentagon media pool on board the USS Copeland Sunday that the guided missile frigate USS Simpson was on a routine patrol when it reported the mine about 55 kilometres south-west of Farsi Island where Iran has a major military base.

Van Dyke said the mine was an encrusted myam-type mine that apparently had broken loose from its mooring.

The mine is smaller than the type of mine containing 550 kilograms of explosives that holed the Roberts April 14 off Qatar, 225 kilometres southeast of Farsi, wounding 10 crewmen.

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hizbollah-affiliated kidnappers in the embattled, 40-square-kilometre enclave.

Among Monday's victims were three Amal militiamen, axed to death. Their bodies were brought to Beirut's American University Hospital, where officials said the facility was packed to capacity and could no longer cope with casualties.

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Colombian rebels free most captives

BOGOTA (AP) — All foreigners except the West German consul in Bogota and six Colombian journalists were freed Monday by guerrillas of the National Liberation Army in Colombia, police said. Earlier, the leftist guerrillas had freed West German Honorary Consul Helmut Luecker and Colombian journalists Guillermo Vallejo and Carlos Espinosa.

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

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Nitze suggests new START deadline

LONDON (R) — September is more likely to be the deadline for a U.S.-Soviet strategic arms treaty (START) and it may take a further superpower summit to seal the pact, a senior U.S. official said Monday. Paul Nitze, arms control adviser to President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz, said he would be surprised if a START treaty could be ready in time for Reagan's meeting with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in Moscow May 29. Because of the U.S. presidential election in November, "if we're going to get it done, I think we've got to get it done by September," he told European journalists in a "WorldNet" televised news conference from Washington. He said Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze would meet at the United Nations General Assembly session in New York in September. "If one lets it (a START treaty) slip beyond September then you run into the immediacy of the election," Nitze said. "And then after the election I'm not sure whether the newly elected president would wish to consent to a matter that important unless he has had a chance to assemble his government and have them carefully go through all the details of all the issues involved."



President Chadli Benjedid to attend an extraordinary Arab summit in Algiers (Petra photo)

King, Sytenko review peace efforts

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein held talks with Soviet envoy Mikhail Sytenko on Middle East peace efforts and the Iran-Iraq war, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported Monday.

Petra said Sytenko, a Soviet roving ambassador to the Middle East, was received by the King late Sunday.

The talks centred on the devastating Iran-Iraq war and the necessity to implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 598, which calls for a ceasefire in the Gulf conflict, Petra reported.

The agency said the talks also touched on efforts to convene an international peace conference on the Middle East under U.N. auspices and attended by all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and Algerian Ambassador to Jordan Mohammad Bishara.

Bishara

Shvednadze

Sytenko flew to Kuwait Monday and an official quoted by the AP said the roving ambassador was expected to hold "more talks on the Gulf war" with Kuwaiti leaders.

The official described the Soviet envoy's meetings in Amman as "very beneficial and interesting." He did not elaborate.

King receives Algerian invitation to attend extraordinary summit

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday received an invitation from Algerian President Chadli Benjedid to attend an extraordinary Arab summit to be held in Algiers.

The King's meeting with Ibrahimi was attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and Algerian Ambassador to Jordan Mohammad Bishara.

Ibrahimi will proceed from Jordan to Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Kuwait and Syria, and Messaoudia will be to Mauritania and Morocco to deliver the first batch of invitations to the Tunis-based Arab League's 21 members.

A Soviet embassy official was quoted as saying by the AP Sunday that Foreign Minister Taber Al Masri and Sytenko discussed a forthcoming visit to Jordan by Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze.

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Crown Prince urges academic link between geography, resources

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Monday urged a national committee involved in the process of developing the country's educational system to regard geography as a basic scientific subject and to link it to the country's resources.

"The subject of geography should be renamed 'Geography and natural resources' and should cover problems pertaining to the environment," Prince Hassan said at a meeting with the committee members gathered at the Ministry of Education.

"History books taught at schools should clearly point out the influence of the Great Arab Revolt on Arab life and Arab countries which are still attempting to achieve the revolt's aspirations and national goals," Prince Hassan said.

He said that stress should be laid on the general conduct of both teachers and students in the new system so that the best results can be achieved from it.

In formulating sets of regulations concerning norms of conduct, he said, the committee could benefit from the experiments of advanced countries and

from surveys conducted by Jordanian universities in this regard.

Special stress should be laid on religion and history within the general framework of national education, and plurality should be clearly identified as a favourable factor promoting and enriching the Jordanian society.

Prince Hassan said.

He said sufficient attention should be given to promoting the sense of belonging among students and enhancing the concept of national identity.

Minister of Education Thouman Hindawi spoke at the meeting, calling attention to the need to intermingle the various subjects in the syllabuses at the compulsory stage.

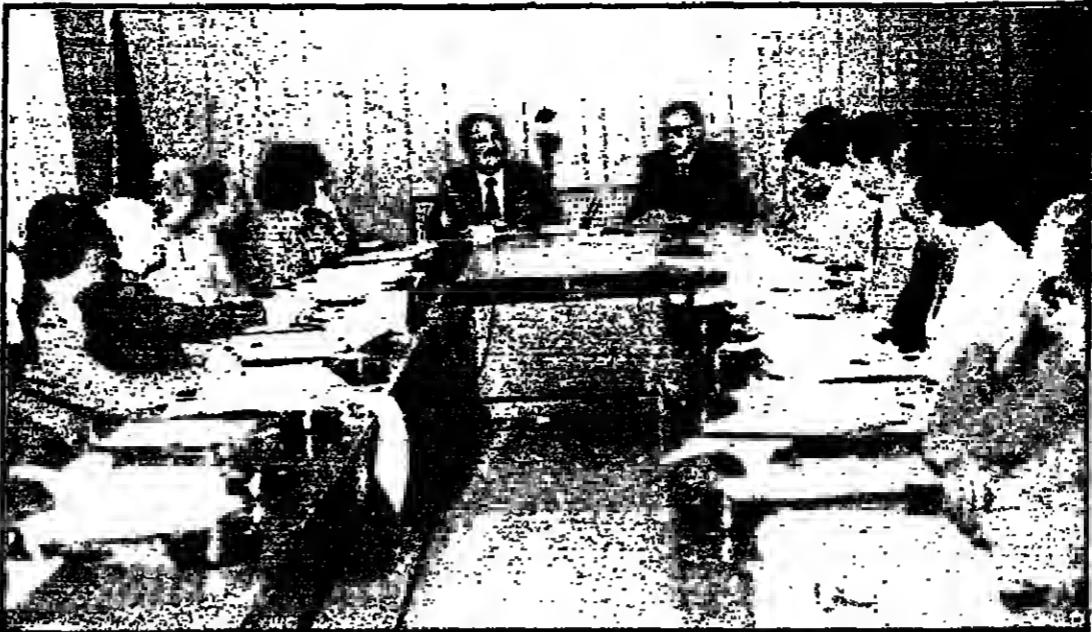
He urged the committee members to cooperate closely so that they can come out with useful recommendations as soon as possible.

The committee, which includes educationalists, teachers of different subjects at different levels and representatives of Jordanian universities, was formed to set general outlines for a national educational system.

Apart from educational subjects, the committee is focusing attention on developing students' extra-curricular activities, such as visiting museums, interacting with the society and learning civics.

In its drive to introduce new syllabuses for the country's schools, the committee also turns attention to the problems of desertification, afforestation, beautifying the environment, technical development and the role of Jordanian citizens in social and political, the role of women in Jordanian society and the problems of youth.

In March this year Prince Hassan said educational teams, working on the implementation of resolutions passed by the National Educational Conference last year, have drafted a new education law. This law, he said, aims to raise the efficiency and standard of teachers and adapt education in Jordan to the labour market's needs.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Monday meets with members of the committee involved in developing the educational system in the country (Petra photo)

Dakhqan inspects Irbid projects

IRBID (Petra) — The Ministry of Water and Irrigation is taking effective measures to ensure that contractors abide by their deadline in the fulfilment of their contracts for laying sewerage and water networks in Irbid, in northern Jordan.

Minister of Water and Irrigation Ahmad Dakhqan visited the city Monday and inspected work on these projects.

Later, in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Dakhqan warned that his ministry would be forced to interfere and take over the work from the contractors if they delay work

and fall behind the deadline as stated in the contracts.

The minister had chaired a meeting in Irbid to review the situation and to hear complaints about delays in laying water and sewerage networks in the city.

Contractors and representatives of various companies involved in the scheme took part in the meeting during which various problems were reviewed.

These contractors were served a notice drawing their attention to the need to complete the work in time, the minister said.

He added that problems related to delays were discussed,

and the contractors agreed to submit to the Ministry of Water and Irrigation within three days a report on the situation and to embark on new measures to speed up the work within a week from now.

Dakhqan said he would personally follow up the matter with Irbid's governor and see to it that the contractors abide by their deadlines.

Among those attending the meeting were the governor, the city mayor and the director general of the Water Authority of Jordan.

Bakery owners seek ministry help to solve union problems

AMMAN (J.T.) — The majority of bakery owners in Jordan are demanding that the Ministry of Labour enforce a law on the

Jordanian Bakers Union in the absence of union board due to internal disputes.

A report in Al Ra'i Arabic daily said that in the absence of a board to take charge of the union, and due to constant daily developments in issues related to bakeries, the price of bread and ingredients used in bread and other problems, the bakers are demanding that the union's law be implemented and that the number of bakers in the Kingdom be fixed, so as to ensure continued profitability and marketing of their products.

A group of these bakery owners representing major towns and cities in Jordan, visited Al Ra'i Arabic daily and aired their complaints and grievances about the situation.

They said that their problems started in 1986 when 350 out of 450 union members submitted a request to the Ministry of Supply, asking for a reduction in the price of flour by JD 5 per tonne so that the bakers can make reasonable profits when they sell the bread.

This request was submitted to the ministry without the knowledge of the union board and the board chairman, who decided to suspend the membership of eight of the signatories.

The suspension, which lasted 15 months, ended just before the union's general election which took place in September 1987.

the paper said.

According to the paper out of 685 union members only 120 took part in the election which renewed the mandate of the previous chairman and seven members out of a total of 11 members on the board.

The paper said that one of those who won was not a fully fledged union member and the labour minister had to consider his election as null and void.

Later, a number of problems arose prompting the board members to submit their resignations, a matter which according to the rules was conveyed to the minister of labour who asked for fresh elections, the paper said.

It said that the board chairman refused the decision, and since February 1988, had been placing obstacles in the path of holding elections to choose a new board that can take charge of the union's affairs.

The whole matter, according to the paper, is now pending examination and a decision by the legislation bureau.

However, the paper says that it has conducted tours of 685 bakeries in the Kingdom and found that they lack two basic requirements: cleanliness and honesty in work; and it appealed to the ministries of Labour and Supply to reform the union's regulations and take proper measures to control the situation.

Joint company reviews economic projects

AMMAN (Petra) — The general assembly of the joint Jordan-Egyptian Investment and Finance Company Sunday approved the company's internal regulations and statute and reviewed the steps taken so far to set up three subsidiaries, one for producing lean meat and fodder for fattening sheep, a fishing company and seeds production company.

At a meeting cochaired by Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Hamdi Tabbaa and Egyptian Minister of State for International Cooperation Maurice Maramallah, the general assembly discussed prospects for involving Arab and foreign investors in the tourist projects which the company intends to set up in Nuweiba, Aqaba and the neighbouring area.

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Henna for hands, hair and walls

The following article is part of three of Ammar Khammash's book *Notes on Village Architecture in Jordan*, which the Jordan Times is serialising over the coming few weeks. Khammash's book was part of the requirement for his Bachelor degree from the University of Southwestern Louisiana. Photos and sketches appearing with these articles were first exhibited at Southwestern in March 1986. The publication of the book was funded by The Royal Endowment for Culture and Education, of the Noor al Hussein Foundation. The book is available for sale at the foundation's head office at the Housing Bank Complex.

The Site

THE name Shohak designates not only the Crusader castle but also a large number of villages in the surrounding valleys. The castle itself once provided shelter and a market area for the villagers. A large number of villages are situated in the surrounding valleys whose water springs have made life possible in this part of Jordan. Some of the villages of Shohak are Abu Makhtouh, Al-Juhayer, Al-Mansourah (originally Al-Kharybeh), Al Jayeh, Tor Abu Ras, Al Fajji Naji, and a few others. Al Mgar'iyeh was probably always the highest. The villages closest to the castle are also very close to each other. Al Jayeh, for instance, lies in the valley immediately southeast of the castle and is connected to the village of Abu Makhtouh by dwellings strung out along the mountainside. The group of houses between these two villages is called Tor Abu Ras. These houses, as well as many others in Abu Makhtouh, are built as extensions of caves. A house might be built into the rock by enclosing one side of a pre-existing cave with a wall that has a square doorway. Often a group of houses follows the contour of the mountainside where caves are found and can be easily dug into a layer of soft limestone. This is clearly seen in Tor Abu Ras. Tor may be translated as "a cliff with caves."

The Shohak area is charged with the magic of south Jordan, its valleys meandering through an unspoiled landscape with sites of undiscovered mystery and charm. Located at the pointed tip of the fertile crescent, where the land of Arabia begins, this is a terrain of vivid contrasts — a Mediterranean-like landscape dissolving into the desert.

Traditional architecture changes according to climate. There is great contrast between the architecture of the villages of Al Shohak, which still belongs to the typical mountain village architecture, and the architecture of the town of Ma'a, 35 kilometres south-southeast of Al Shohak. The difference is so great that to someone arriving from Shohak, Ma'a's architecture appears more Saudi Arabian than Jordanian. Somewhere between Shohak and

Even though this method of construction is often used, especially in the village of Al Mansourah, none of the oldest houses of Al Mgar'iyeh were constructed this way. One of the most interesting houses in Al Mgar'iyeh is the house of Abd-Allah Slaiman Al-Shkhaiby. The largest traditional house in the village, it is a double building with a row of three arches on each side and two front doors. Its 130-square-metre floor plan might be one of the largest in Jordan. Another very old house that is worth mentioning is the house of Al-haj Hsain Ar-Rawashdeh, which from inside looks like a tunnel due to its length — 14.20 metres from the door to the back wall. Four arches support the roof.

A group of the village elders sitting in front of a small shop described the way of constructing a typical house. They referred to the building of a house as a communal activity: "Building used to be an *awieh*." The rectangular exterior walls are built before the interior arches to act as pre-existing buttresses for the arches. Specialised skill is required for constructing the arches. (In this village the master arch-builders were Al-Shatrah from the Khateeh family of Ma'an.) The arch is constructed on wooden scaffolding that consists of two ladder-like parts fixed at the foot of the arch and fastened with apes to form an equilateral triangle with the ground. The triangle is then shaped into a curve by piling stones and clay on its sloping sides; the result is a parabolic shape and not a half-circle. This makes the arch closer to the ideal shape of a natural curve that handles the compression most efficiently. The stones of the arch, the voussoirs, are placed along the curving surface of the built-up intrados; these stones are precisely hewn with smooth, straight sides to insure full distribution of the compressive stresses over their largest faces. The last stone is the keystone. It is almost identical to the other stones and is called *ghalag*, which means "lock." The keystone is hammered tightly into place; a flat piece of wood on top prevents its being shattered by the hammering. The instant the keystone is in place the entire arch, now self-supported, "jumps" off the scaffolding.

The latest houses with arches were built in the 1940s. All the building materials were gathered from the environs, except for oals, locks and keys; these were brought from Hebron.

Probably the most consistent difference between the houses of the north and those of the south may be observed in their interior details. Dominated by the grain storage bins, the interiors are

more capable of representing delicate variations because they are less structural and more plastic due to the properties of clay. The interiors are impressions of people's lives once stamped on fresh clay.

The storage bins change from village to village and most consistently from north to south. In the north they are normally part of the wall, built between the arches or as dividers between rooms. They are comparatively tall, taller than a human figure, and because of their rectangular shapes they look like a wall and are difficult to notice. Since bins in the north are made of mud plastered over a framework of cane, there is a geometry of straight lines; they do not have the elaborate relief ornaments of their southern counterparts; occasionally they are decorated with inlaid pieces of broken china and/or mirrors.

The bins of the southern region tend toward the exotic. They are constructed by the village women who use a mixture of mud and straw without a wooden framework, resulting in pieces of more organic than geometric shape. The bins of the Shohak area are unique. Human-size silos are found in the dark, windowless interior of one house in the village of Al-Mgar'iyeh. Constructed by Hajjeh Salha, one magnificent bin is decorated with ornamentation made of coils of mud applied to its front surface.

Decorative motifs include abstract plant-forms similar to those in Huwad and eyes meant to protect the crop. In other cases eyes are painted on the surface in black paint, or verses from the Koran are inscribed on the bins. Hajjeh Salha described the process: "We make them in the summer, outside, on the roof or the street; it takes 15 to 20 days to complete one bin."

The bins are made in different shapes and sizes. A huge bin will have a large opening at the top where the grain or flour is deposited. Some bins are covered with a crown-like lid. A small opening at the bottom provides access to the daily supply of the crop stored within; a bundle of rags plugs this opening so that the grain cannot escape. The bin's small opening is usually plastered in clay after the harvest and re-opened in winter.

Al Mgar'iyeh

Al Mgar'iyeh seems to have been, traditionally, the biggest among the Shohak villages. Located approximately three kilometres north of the Shohak castle on the north side of a mountain, the site includes two water springs — Ain Sidr and Ain Al Mgar'iyeh. From the north, one part of the village appears to be a mixture of houses and huge chunks of rock. This juxtaposition of volumes similar in size, colour and sometimes form, creates an unusual neighbourhood. The oldest houses of Al Mgar'iyeh are found here. "The first house to be built in this village is the house of Al-haj Hsain Ar-Rawashdeh; it was built approximately 100 years ago." In the same neighbourhood, the other two houses considered to be among the oldest are the house of Ied Salim Shqairat and dar 'Atayeg. It soon becomes apparent that among the houses of this village the oldest are some of the largest, and in most cases they are built at the sides of big rocks that tumbled from the mountain providing pre-existing walls for the first builders.

One distinguishing feature in the Shohak village house is its square openings. A notable deviation is a beautiful arched doorway, 150 centimetres wide, in the house of Abd-Allah Slaiman Al-Shkhaiby. Two reasons for constructing rectangular openings rather than arched ones are the availability of long flat pieces of stone existing naturally in the landscape and the use of wood for lintels.

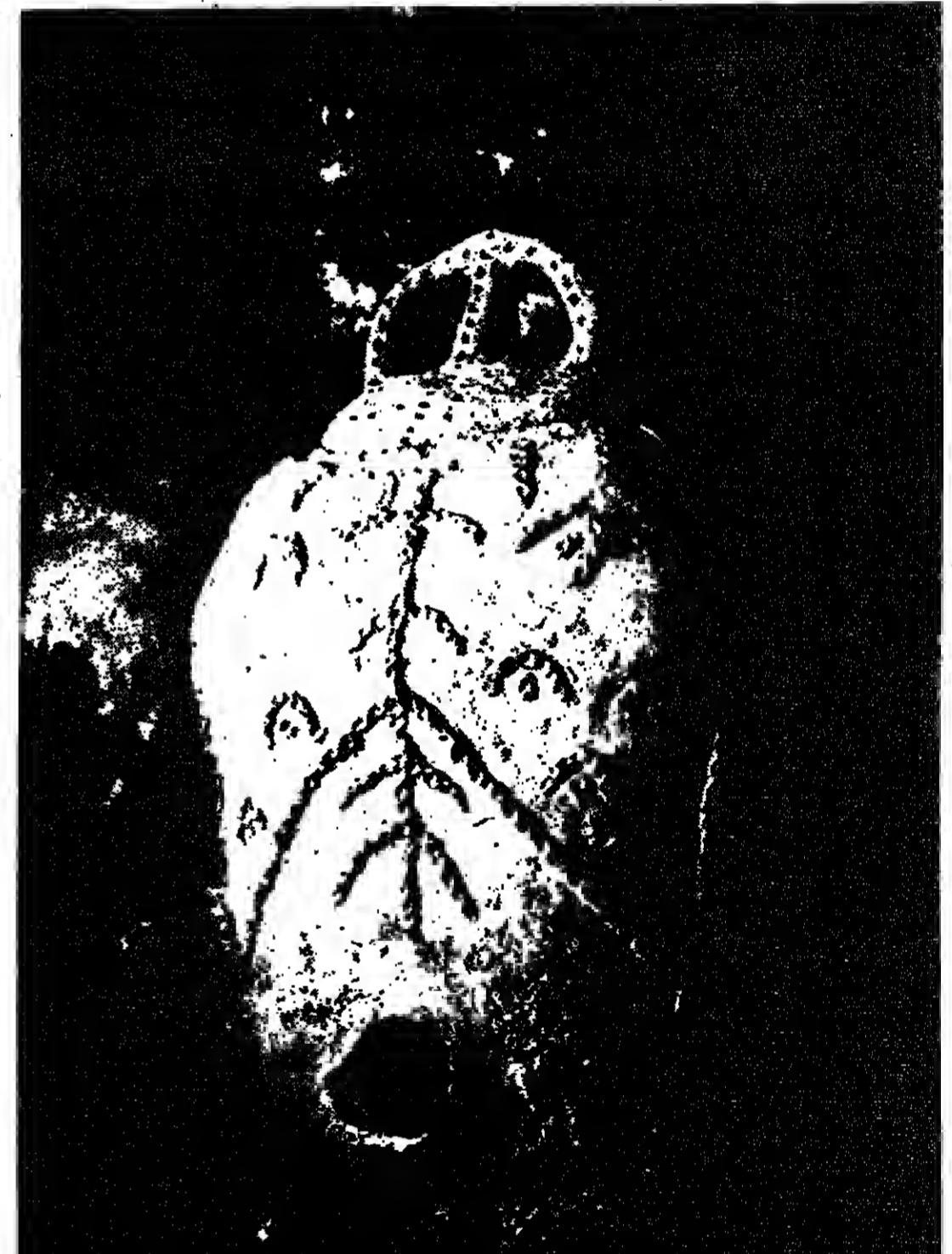
People and economy

The three main clans of Mgar'iyeh are Al-Shqairat, Al-Lawama, and Al-Malaheem. Al-Malaheem, who are said to have come from Hijaz some 400 years ago, include a pedigree of four family names: Rashed or Al-Rawashdeh, Ghammy or Al-Ghammeh, Badr, and Hazzah. The

building is rectangular, 17 x 8.2 metres, with a door and an exterior mihrab in its northern



The village of Al Mgar'iyeh.



Flour storing bin built by Hajjeh Salha.

"No one takes from this place anything due to the fear of the wali," explained the old man who looks after the place.

The dome over the gravesite creates an elegant space, and although a big part of the dome's shell is destroyed, its base is in comparatively good condition. It sits on a regular octagonal base that has four small windows and four ornated squinches. In this case the octagon does the job of pendentives by arching the four corners of the main square underneath with squinches; thus it acts as an adapter between the square room and the circular dome. A fourth mihrab is located under the dome on the southern wall, but this is small and shallow and is overshadowed by the ornaments of the squinches and by the grave. In the centre beneath the dome, the grave is marked by an oval of small stones and two marble headstones that are kept here as offerings.

The main building is simply made of a tunnel vault 9.5 metres long and a dome 3.5 metres in diameter. In the room with tunnel-vaulted ceiling, a main mihrab is located in the middle opposite the door. Inside this niche is a water jar and beside it is a collection of ornamented stones that are kept here as offerings.

vered with green fabric. Sunlight that enters through the ruined dome has faded the fabric to a light green, and summer dust and winter rain have permanently starched its folds.

In weekly ceremonies at the gravesite, the villagers would pay tribute by drumming and lighting oil lamps or candles. They would bring new fabric to cover the grave and would tear off small pieces of the old fabric to keep for good fortune. Prayers for the sick and other supplications were addressed to the wali. Women dyed their hands and their hair with henna which was also applied to the walls as an offering. "They bring incense, henna and sacrifices. Women walk about the shrine. Before, it was said that there used to be ostrich eggs hanging in the dome in a nest. There were lamps; some of glass and some of clay," explained the old caretaker.



The building of the wali Abu Salim Al-Dirany.



Big rocks providing pre-existing walls for some houses in Al Mgar'iyeh.

Joe D. in 1988

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First step in a long way

THE ABSENCE of a definite agreement between OPEC and non-OPEC oil producers at the conclusion of last week's meeting in Vienna can be read as anything but failure of the unprecedented encounter of powers that control the world oil market. At best, any hastily reached accord, including the five-per-cent production cut suggested by the non-OPEC delegates, could only have been a short-term tranquilliser with no long-term formula in sight to stabilise the market. The very fact that the attention of the consuming world was riveted on the Vienna meeting and international oil price barometers started quivering in anticipation as the talks got under way was a definite pointer to the significance of the first-ever serious joint deliberations of OPEC and non-OPEC producers. No doubt, those producers who stayed away from the talks but ready to take possible pickings were disappointed when no accord came through.

On the other side, the U.S., which went to the extent of trying to wreck the meeting through its own lobbying tactics and psychological battle through the media, might be patting itself on the back that the talks could not produce any agreement, but the willingness expressed by the non-OPEC producers in Vienna to cooperate with the OPEC by coming up with the five-per-cent proposal underlines the fact that oil producers around the world are slowly coming to terms with accepting that rivalry in the market benefits everybody but themselves. By the same token, the outcome of the Vienna talks and subsequent public statements by both sides indicate that OPEC and non-OPEC producers have opened the door wide for expanded long-term cooperation rather than short-term remedies which are difficult to prop up, especially when not all producers are partners in such arrangements.

Furthermore, the first to benefit from the impact of production cuts will be those producers who balked at entering into serious talks with OPEC, which has always been the scapegoat whenever oil price crises arose. It is indeed comforting to note that at least four OPEC Arab members, led by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, appear to be determined to pursue OPEC-non-OPEC cooperation as a package designed to bring about substantial long-term changes in the oil market, and are ready to sacrifice short-term gains for the cause. Such long-term cooperation will also open up further avenues of mutually beneficial arrangements in non-oil sectors. Those advocating a take-what-you-can-while-the-going-is-good policy could only be described as short-sighted and insensitive to the prerequisites of a stable oil market, which is what Arab countries need today in their quest for development and self-sufficiency.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: King reaffirms stand

KING Hussein was keen to reaffirm Jordan's stand with regard to current initiatives for peace and a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Addressing foreign correspondents and journalists, the King said that Jordan has been accustomed to frank in its dealings with other nations, using one language and declaring its attitude with all frankness under any circumstances. The King said that Jordan's six-point document handed to the U.S. secretary of state during his tour in the Middle East contains all elements of such stand, and reflects the Kingdom's total commitment to the principles of the Arab Nation and its keenness to protect the national rights of the Palestinian people. The King told his audience that Jordan can never serve as a substitute for the Palestinians and cannot act on behalf of them in all efforts for a settlement to the Palestine problem. King Hussein stressed that Jordan was maintaining consultations with Syria and Egypt and also with the PLO for the sake of arriving at a unified formula vis-a-vis the current Middle East peace initiatives. This coordination of stands among the Arabs, the King said, is bound to contribute towards the achievement of a just and honourable solution. For those who are keen on preserving world peace we say that they ought to work for convening an international conference for the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 which embody the essential elements for the establishment of a lasting peace.

Al Dustour: Jordan demands just peace

FIRMLY and clearly, King Hussein reaffirmed Jordan's position with regard to the Arab-Israeli conflict, and reiterated this country's demand for an international conference to achieve a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. Addressing foreign journalists in Amman the King said he would not act on behalf of the PLO which is the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people at any negotiations for a settlement. The King's reiteration was meant as a message to the Palestinian people that Jordan does not wish to contain the Palestine problem. This message would help to enhance and bolster the confidence between Arabs and promote inter-Arab action in dealing with peace initiatives and future developments. Jordan is satisfied with the rallying of Arabs and the promotion of the spirit of close coordination, but Jordan has also been intent on devoting all its policies in word and deed to serve as a catalyst for pan-Arab action, like it did at the Arab summit meeting in Amman last November. For this reason, Jordan is maintaining constant consultations with Syria, the PLO, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the Gulf countries. Jordan seeks and also works towards achieving a permanent and just peace in the region and for this reason it has been serving as a bridge of understanding for the promotion of cooperation and coordination among Arabs throughout the Arab World.

Sawt Al Shabab: Bright picture of Jordan

KING Hussein once again painted a bright picture of Jordan and reiterated this country's readiness to defend the Arab Nation in total commitment to the principles and goals of the Great Arab Revolt. In an address at Karak Sunday evening, the King reaffirmed that the Kingdom will continue to build up its forces and develop its economy and strengthen itself in the face of all challenges. This country, he said, will serve as a fortress in the face of dangers and will continue to shoulder its responsibilities and carry out its duties to serve all Arabs. This country, King Hussein said, serves as a haven for all Arabs who are honourable and who are committed to defend the Arab Order and the Arab Nation.

GUEST COLUMN

Uprising — realities and expectations

THE application of the concept of "extremism" in religious ideological and political phenomena — irrespective of intentions — increasingly leads to confrontations, clashes, bigotry and chauvinism. The psychological outcome of this concept often leads to clear-cut demarcation lines between two extremes such as oversimplification and exaggeration as well as optimism and pessimism... etc. Such an outcome is reflected in some trends in the ongoing process of evaluating the results and scopes of the present popular Palestinian uprising in the occupied Arab territories.

On the one hand, there exists the notion that the uprising will soon face the ultimate dead-lock and will eventually lose its momentum and fade away, and, on the other, there is the notion that the uprising is only a prelude to an imminent and complete liberation of the occupied Arab lands. What is the bare truth in all of this? And what are the most discernible achievements of the uprising in the different fields? and what are its scopes?

On the Palestinian level, the uprising has succeeded, among other things, in affirming the existence and the will of the Palestinian Arabs and in placing the Palestinian problem on the list of the international community's priorities. The uprising has also succeeded in the adoption of many pro-Palestinian resolutions by different Arab and international organisations.

It also managed to help in lifting the siege of Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, and in bolstering the image of the PLO in Palestinian, Arab, regional, and international fields. The uprising also succeeded in creating favourable circumstances to revolutionise and develop the PLO and to rid it from the shortcomings that afflicted it due to the hostility and perverse circumstances faced both from within and from without. Last but not least, the uprising enabled both the Palestinians and the PLO to restore their decision-making capability as far as the Palestinian question is concerned, which — for the last few years — seemed to have become a monopoly in the hands of the American-Israeli alliance.

On the broader Arab level, the uprising has placed the Palestinian case as well as the issue of the occupied Arab territories on the forefront of international attention after a long period of negligence. After years of frustration and despair, the uprising gave hope to the Arab national will and restored luster to the Arab struggle.

The American-Israeli onslaught was curbed and attempts of this alliance to entice other Arab countries to sign the Camp David accords, thus broadening its base, were foiled. The uprising also succeeded in making the Arabs an integral part of the decision-making process in all matters that concern them. The American-Israeli alliance's attempt at monopolising the process of decision-making was once more broken.

On the Israeli level, the uprising achieved what could amount to miracles. After the Palestinians in particular, and the Arabs in general, were, for a long time, described as "terrorists", the image, has drastically changed if not reversed in a number of circles. The credibility of the U.N. resolution which equates Zionism with Racism has been restored.

The image of peace-loving Israel was shaken in many international circles, including certain Jewish circles. The uprising embarrassed the political and military leadership of Israel and exposed its moral fragility and brittleness.

Notwithstanding the political polarisation in the Israeli society and indications of increased militancy, the uprising helped in convincing many open-minded Israelis of the just cause of the Palestinians and their legitimate demands for self-determination. It also shocked the conscience of many Israelis due to the atrocities committed by the Israeli army, other security forces, and Zionist settlers. Many of the undetermined Israelis were subconsciously convinced either by the pressure of daily events, or due to their liberal leaning, that the West Bank is not or does not have to be an integral part of Biblical Israel, that the occupation is becoming more of a burden to the weak Israeli economy and should be terminated in a way or another.

An ever increasing number of Israelis are being convinced that decision making regarding the Palestinians, the Arabs or even the Jews of the world, is no more a pure Israeli decision. It has become obvious that the new, emerging Palestinian and Arab will should be taken into serious consideration when formulating the decisions affecting the fate of this region.

Internationally, the uprising succeeded in making the Palestinian issue a centre of debate in almost every political society — friendly or otherwise — as well as political parties and parliamentary pressure groups world-wide. The U.N. and the Security Council,

under the pressure of events, were forced to play a favourable and active role, which, for a long time, was almost forgotten and neglected.

The American administration, sensitive to the increasing anti-American sentiment in the Middle East, was forced to flurry its envoys headed by Secretary of State George Shultz who shuttled between three separate visits in an attempt to save whatever has remained of the American credibility in the region. The uprising succeeded in partially remoulding the American official stance from a fully biased Likudian position to a hopefully less prejudiced stance. Thanks to the uprising, the exaggerated notion that 99 per cent of the cards were in American hands, has undergone serious balancing dimensions.

On the light of these conditions and changes one can deduce that the uprising has successfully placed the Palestinian issue on the right track once again. One can easily say now, and surely so, that the uprising has achieved all the realistic goals mentioned above with unexpected and unparalleled efficiency.

The demarcation line between the scopes of the uprising on the one side, and the scopes of the Palestinian case on the other, should be explicitly noted here. No one has the right to exaggerate the capabilities of the uprising and hence expect from it more than it can realistically achieve given the prevailing adverse circumstances.

We, as Arabs, aside from mere rhetoric, sabre-rattling, and modest financial assistance have given the uprising virtually nothing of the material support it deserves. Total liberation of the occupied territories is, by far, a task beyond the capabilities of the uprising; it takes more than one uprising and perhaps more than one war to be fought by the Arabs.

While it is not fair to underestimate the great achievements of the uprising, it is equally unfair to demand from it what it cannot achieve on its own. In fact, nothing is capable of hurting the uprising more than some current Arab over-expectations that are bound to lead to a quick and an overwhelming tide of over-frustration. This is precisely why one should realise the limitations of the present Palestinian uprising, especially if left by the other Arabs in the battlefield to fight the Israelis alone. To avoid hurting it consciously or unconsciously, one, indeed, should avoid "blackmailing" the uprising to deliver more than it can objectively yield.

Mitterrand faces fast move to capitalise on triumph over Chirac



Francois Mitterrand

By Alan Philips
Reuter

PARIS — If Socialist President Francois Mitterrand had written the script for his re-election, he could hardly have dreamt up a better scenario for his drive to reshape France's political landscape.

Rajendra Sareen columnist and expert on Pakistan affairs, said he did not expect much from the home secretaries meeting as there appeared to be no political will behind it.

"They will be polite to each other. India will say Pakistan is interfering, Pakistan will say it is not," he said, adding: "I don't see any signal at political level on both sides which may provide a breakthrough."

A home ministry source said he did not expect any dramatic developments either.

Khan said both sides realised uneasy relations were not in their best interest and irritants in their relations were not big enough to prevent cooperation.

"The main problem is the intangible element of suspicion and mistrust which seems to pervade, not the people of the two countries as such," he said, "but the government and influence-wielders like the media, parliament and political parties."

He said more open action on both sides would help. He said: "I think we know each other too well to imagine we can fool each other by saying one thing and doing another."

This leaves Mitterrand plenty of scope to prise centrists away

from Chirac, who is expected to resign quickly and retreat to his stronghold as mayor of Paris.

The next step for Mitterrand is to name a prime minister — expected to be moderate Socialist Michel Rocard — and put together a government including centrists.

Moderation, continuity

Unlike his first term in 1981, when Mitterrand allied with the Communists behind a programme of radical reforms, the president has this time campaigned on a platform of moderation and continuity, openly courting middle-of-the-road voters.

Mitterrand will have to succeed quickly in opening up the political scene

, said Jerome Jaffe, chief analyst for the Sofres opinion poll organisation. "If he does not, then a great wave of disappointment will overtake him."

The strongest backing for Mitterrand came from former President Valery Giscard D'Estaing, who looks set to play a key role in parliament in fostering centrist support.

"Good luck Mr. President. Storms await us. Show that you know how to pilot the ship to a safe haven," said Giscard, who was defeated by Mitterrand in 1981.

"We will judge the new government according to its acts," Giscard said in a statement. "We must not decide in advance to censure it."

Mitterrand needs the support of only four members of Chirac's coalition in order to govern — provided he sticks to a moderate

12 to 14 hours subsonic. The ideal Mach number is one of the big questions facing the engineers.

The United States researched a supersonic transport, the SST, in the 1960s, but dropped the programme in 1970 because of costs. The space shuttle had been designed, the Apollo moon programme was winding down and there seemed no need for space missions requiring re-entry with the accompanying hypersonic speeds.

In addition, the price of jet fuel, which had been 10 cents a gallon (3.8 litre) when research started, jumped to \$1.30.

While American interest dropped, the British and French produced the Concorde, a plane capable of twice the speed of sound. But its birth coincided with heightened environmental concerns, and the sonic boom scared people; many governments, including the United States, barred it from flying over land.

Moreover, the Concorde was designed with '60s technology and carries barely enough fuel to make it across the Atlantic.

Space technology zooms into 21st century

By Harry F. Rosenthal
The Associated Press

LANGLEY RESEARCH CENTRE, Virginia — The idea has a nice ring to it: Tokyo in two hours. Zooming over the earth at 25 times the speed of sound. Crossing the Pacific in an airplane so revolutionary the space shuttle and the Concorde become old hat.

That airplane, or something like it, is taking shape at this and other NASA centres in bits and pieces: A model is assaulted in a wind tunnel by 4,800 mph (7,725 kmph) blasts in temperatures hundreds of degrees below zero: an electron beam illuminates air flow around a scaled-down plane; a sleek cylinder zips through a water trough 3,000-feet (900-metre) long, sensitive to every nuance of resistance; a photograph captures shock wave and heat patterns in ghostly hues of green, orange, yellow, blue and magenta: the most powerful computer ever built ingests world-class problems and spits out answers; a standard airplane circles over Chesapeake Bay, piloted not from the stan-

des — Ames and Dryden in California and Lewis in Ohio — its business is to develop technology and pass it on, without cost, to aircraft companies. The federal government has played that role from the start of its involvement 70 years ago.

The agency has never built an airplane, but few planes fly today without engines, designs, materials and structures conceived at NASA. "We are doing research that benefits the country," says Creedon. "It is available to Boeing, Lockheed and McDonnell Douglas, whoever wants to build transport or high performance aircraft." No single company alone could afford NASA's \$2 billion investment in wind tunnels.

Here at Langley, they don't talk about the "oriental express." It's either the NASP, the national aerospace plane, or better yet the X-30, next in a string of experimental planes that began with Chuck Yeager's X-1, breaker of the sound barrier.

Phase 2 in progress
When U.S. President Ronald

Reagan made his rosy prediction about the Orient Express, a week after the Challenger space shuttle disaster, engineers had already taken years to decide the X-30 was possible. Reagan's one-paragraph announcement signalled start of phase 2, perfecting the technology, which will last until the summer of 1990, when engineers will take a hard look at where they stand and decide whether to build the X-30. Phase 3, in the mid-'90s, will see the aerospace plane begin flight tests that would finish as the 21st century begins.

That's the timetable for the largest experimental aircraft project ever undertaken by the United States. It will cost \$3.3 billion. Clearly NASA and the air force, which is sharing the cost, have something more practical in mind than building one or two prototype planes, merely to prove it can be done.

The military and package-delivery firms such as Federal Express say the aerospace plane will provide the technology for the somewhat slower but far more useful aircraft of the future.

Iran wants closer ties between soldiers and guards

NICOSIA (R) — The Iranian president has called on the regular army and Revolutionary Guards to work more closely together, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported Monday.

President Hojatoleslam Ali Khamenei, head of the supreme defence council, urged closer cooperation by the two forces when he swore in Brigadier-General Ali Shabazi as new chief of staff of Iran's armed forces.

IRNA, monitored in Nicosia, said Khamenei arrested during the Tehran ceremony Sunday that the army and Islamic Revolution's Guard Corps (IRGC) must coordinate their operations in every area.

The Revolutionary Guards and the Basij, a voluntary force numbering hundreds of thousands, have borne the brunt of the 7½-year-old war against Iraq since the purge of senior regular army officers after the Islamic revolution that ousted the Shah in 1979.

Khamenei said the Revolutionary Guards was a young force and provided good support for the army. The army for its part had greatly helped the IRGC and such cooperation must continue, he said.



Iraqi soldiers and Iranian prisoners of war at Fao Peninsula, which the Iraqis liberated from Iranian occupation last month (Photo by Khalil Mazzawi)

Last month, the Iranian Army launched its first offensive without the backing of Revolutionary Guards or Basij volunteers for 18 months against Panwir in north-east Iraq.

The president said the army had enough manpower, equipment and military know-how to achieve the aims of the Islamic revolution.

Khamenei praised outgoing Chief of Staff Brigadier-General Ismael Sohrabi, saying since he took over the post in October 1984 at a most crucial period he had played a highly significant role.

Sohrabi has been appointed military supervisor of the supreme war support council.

The armed forces had been innovative in the production of equipment and was now making full use of the country's resources to meet its defence needs, he said.

ICRC to start relief work in south Sudan

KHARTOUM (AP) — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) will start a new relief operation to help civilians in war zones in southern Sudan later this month and is contacting both the government and the rebels about safe conduct, an ICRC official says.

ICRC Operations Director Andre Pasquier spoke to reporters following a meeting Saturday night with Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi.

Pasquier said that his organisation had contacted and would further contact the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) about safe conduct for the relief operation which he said is expected to start before the end

of the month.

He said Mahdi had pledged to assist the operation in overcoming any difficulties.

The ICRC official's comments seemed to imply that the government had given the green light for the organisation to contact the rebels.

In the past, there have been sensitivities between relief organisations and the government which bans contacts with the SPLA rebels.

Pasquier indicated that the food and medical supplies would probably be transported from neighbouring Kenya and Uganda and that they would be distributed by ICRC personnel.

He said that the ICRC was a non-political, humanitarian and neutral organisation, adding that relief officials in a war zone require securing the consent of the

arrange for transport of food supplies to civilians caught in the cross fire.

The SPLA, which controls more than 90 per cent of the countryside in the south, has been attacking relief convoys by ground and air, claiming that the government uses them to transport military troops and supplies.

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He said that the ICRC was a non-political, humanitarian and neutral organisation, adding that relief officials in a war zone require securing the consent of the

two parties in the dispute.

"As a neutral institution, the ICRC should contact both parties to win their confidence," he said.

He gave no details on how much relief supplies the operation held, nor in which areas it would be distributed.

The rebels took up arms against the government in 1983, demanding more autonomy and administrative and economic reforms. Fierce fighting has forced hundreds of thousands of southerners to flee their crops and cattle and congregate around the relative safety of the towns and cities where they become dependent on relief food for their livelihood.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Uprising enters sixth month

(Continued from page 1)

Abu Khush and Ashkar were described in the indictments as organisers for the mainstream Fatah movement of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Makhluk was described as a member of the Palestine Communist Party and Kafarna was called a militant of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

Sources said the leaflets were painted in Ramallah and distributed in the Gaza Strip by members of the since-outlawed Shabiba Palestinian youth movement.

Awad ordered held until hearing

(Continued from page 1)

A spokesman for Shamir said no such message arrived.

Legal sources quoted by Reuters said the high court's decision would satisfy Shamir but American pressure on Israel was likely to intensify in the two weeks until the final court ruling.

American diplomats here have long backed Awad's philosophy of civil disobedience.

Awad's lawyers, Israeli Avraham Gal and Palestinian Jonathan Kattab, said their client should be released pending a final decision since Israel's "security" organisation, the Shin Bet, did not accuse him of inciting violence.

Excerpts of the Shin Bet statement to the court shown to reporters said Awad was involved in the publication of leaflets calling for strikes and demonstrations and called him a "security" threat.

Awad's wife denied her husband authorised such a leaflet. But his calls for general strikes, boycotts of Israeli goods and non-payment of taxes have been

adopted by leaders of the uprising.

Palestinian sources said there was Arab pressure on Awad not to appeal to Israeli courts because it appeared to legitimise them.

But Awad's lawyers filed an appeal Sunday and the court stayed the expulsion order for three days, ordering the Israeli government to prove its case.

Mrs. Awad said that since her husband's detention she has received dozens of phone calls and telegrams of support from U.S. politicians, church groups and entertainers.

Among those expressing support were Jacqueline Jackson, the wife of Democratic presidential contender Jesse Jackson; Congresswoman Mervyn M. Dymally, a Democrat from California; and singer Joan Baez.

"I certainly felt the support of a tremendous number of people, here and in the United States," she said but added that she and her husband also received numerous death threats in the past few months, usually from anonymous telephone callers.

Amal-Hizbollah war rages

(Continued from page 1)

Their arrest, and a subsequent ban on travel between the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, has not prevented the continued distribution of leaflets in the area.

In Arab Jerusalem and the West Bank and Gaza, business activity was virtually shut down by the latest of dozens of general strikes called in the uprising.

In the Gaza Strip, announcements were broadcast from mosque loudspeakers ordering Palestinians not to go to their jobs in Israel. "Every man who goes to work will be punished," an Arab reporter quoted one announcement as saying.

dead from the streets and carrying wounded civilians to hospitals and clinics in the area.

Amal's irregulars, with green or black headbands, control most of the districts of Haret Hreik, Mrejeh, Roweiss, Shiyab and Kassass, a police spokesman said.

"Hizbollah has established control over half of the slums. It only controlled one-third before the current fighting," the spokesman said.

But he stressed Amal has a long-term military advantage because its fighters and Syrian troops control all gateways to the slums.

"This is Amal's trump card. It can move in supplies and reinforcements from several other areas at will, while Hizbollah cannot get a fly in or out," the spokesman said.

He discounted a report that the Western hostages may have been smuggled out to east Lebanon's ancient city of Baalbek, a Hizbollah stronghold. "It's impossible," he said.

Ahmad Kurdi, an Associated Press photo technician, escaped Monday after he, his wife and six children had been trapped in a shelter in Bir El-Abed since Friday.

Most neighbourhoods had turned into battlefields with dozens of street corners barricaded into positions for gunmen. Hizbollah spokesman said rescue teams were removing the

streets littered with debris, empty artillery cartridges and bullet cases. Black smoke billowed from blazing houses and the smell of gunpowder filled the air.

Most neighbourhoods had turned into battlefields with dozens of street corners barricaded into positions for gunmen.

Hizbollah spokesman said rescue teams were removing the

horrors of the civil war and the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982, Kurdi said.

Chirac leaves office today

(Continued from page 1)

"This is the end of a nightmare," said Jean-Marie Tjibous, leader of the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front (FLNKS). "There is now hope of a solution at the end of the tunnel."

Mitterrand called for talks to end the New Caledonia troubles in his victory speech.

Mitterrand, who cast his vote in the Burgundy city of Chateau Chinon where he was mayor for 20 years, pledged in his speech to unite the French.

"You have chosen to place your confidence in me. Therefore I will carry on the mission whose burden and grandeur I have already known for seven years but which renewed, commits me to do what I must to unite all those French people who want to be united," he said.

In New Caledonia, gloomy white settlers said the reelection of Mitterrand would encourage militant indigenous separatists and bring chaos and uncertainty to France's troubled Pacific territory.

Redman, asked if the United

States still had a timetable to which it wanted Middle Eastern countries to adhere, said: "We need to get this under way as soon as possible."

Shultz's Mideast visit confirmed

(Continued from page 1)

is going because at this stage we have not been able to bring about the negotiations to which all of this effort is directed," he said.

Redman said the U.S. refusal to deal with the Palestine Liberation Organisation had not changed, but added that Shultz may meet with Palestinian representatives during his Mideast tour.

"I would not rule that out," he said.

Shultz's attempt to meet with Palestinians during his March trip failed when the Palestinians refused to attend.

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States still had a timetable to which it wanted Middle Eastern countries to adhere, said: "We need to get this under way as soon as possible."

Sweeping Israeli curbs muzzle Palestinian press

By Paul Taylor
Reuter

TEL AVIV — The fattest file in Mahmoud Abu Zuluf's office is filled with news stories he may not print.

The editor and publisher of Al Quds, the biggest-selling Palestinian daily newspaper in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, displays the dossier with mournful resignation.

"We have problems with the military censor every day. We cannot publish many of the stories and pictures that appear in the Israeli press. The army disrupts our distribution. Much of the time we may only quote Israel Radio," Abu Zuluf said.

Five months into the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories, censorship, closures, arrests, detentions and distribution restrictions have largely muzzled the Palestinian press.

"Newspapers have become worthless as a way of transmitting information. They cannot even tell the people things they need to know for their daily lives, like shopping hours," said Daoud Kuitab, a leading Arab Jerusalem journalist and commentator.

The broad freedom of speech and publication enjoyed by Israelis, who call their country the "only democracy" in the Middle East, do not apply to the Palestinians.

Al Awda published in English and Arabic, whose staff also assisted foreign journalists.

Military authorities also closed Palestinian press offices in the cities of Nablus, Bethlehem and Gaza.

Sources say the purge will continue. One Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin intends to close virtually the entire Palestinian press, little-by-little, to limit international condemnation, leaving perhaps a single newspaper.

In the last few weeks, military censors have increased efforts to prevent the foreign press from publishing reports on the leaflets, security measures and attacks on Palestinians accused of collaborating with the Israeli secret police..

Four Arabic-language dailies are printed in Arab Jerusalem: Al Quds (circulation about 35,000), Al Nahar (5,000), Al Fajr (3,000) and Al Shabab (1,500).

They are allowed to report so little that most Palestinians get their news by listening to foreign radio stations, particularly the Arabic broadcasts of Radio Monte Carlo and a PLO station broadcasting from Baghdad.

Even the clandestine leaflets circulated by underground leaders of the uprising are sometimes more informative than the press. They list strike days and shopping hours authorised by protest organisers.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Libya says no meetings with Egypt

BEIRUT (R) — Libya has denied seeking to resume political relations with Egypt and rejected any talks while Cairo maintained relations with Israel. The official Libyan news agency, JANA, monitored in Beirut, Sunday quoted a foreign affairs spokesman as saying: "Our stance towards Egypt is unchanged ... we reject any meeting with the Egyptian regime as long as the latter continues its relation with the Zionist enemy." The comments were apparently a response to efforts by the United Arab Emirates Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rasib Abdulla Al Nuaimi to improve ties between Egypt and Libya, strained for more than a decade. Nuaimi has visited Tripoli and Cairo since Thursday and the Emirates' news agency (WAM) said he was seeking to reconcile the two countries. "We refuse to have the Libyan flag hoisted in Cairo as long as the Zionists' flag is hoisted there ... such a stance cannot be a matter for mediation or for any good offices," the Libyan statement added.

Demjanjuk appeal to be heard in December

TEL AVIV (AP) — Retired Ohio autoworker John Demjanjuk will appeal his conviction and death sentence for Nazi war crimes by next month and Israel's supreme court will hear the case beginning Dec. 5, a court spokesman said Monday. The spokesman, Shumaryahu Cohen, said in a telephone interview that the Ukrainian-born Demjanjuk, 68, has a June 10 deadline to file the appeal, but that Demjanjuk's lawyers could request an extension. The appeal will be heard by five justices for three consecutive days, and then for another three days between Dec. 12 and 15. Cohen said, adding that Israeli prosecutors are scheduled to reply from Dec. 19 to Dec. 29. The court will convene at the supreme court building and provide simultaneous translations of the Hebrew language proceedings into English and Ukrainian, Cohen said. Demjanjuk was sentenced to death April 25, a week after being found guilty of being a guard named "Ivan the terrible," who operated gas chambers at the Treblinka death camp in Poland where 850,000 people were killed in 1942-1943. Demjanjuk says he is a victim of mistaken identity and that he was in two German prisoner-of-war camps during the period in question.

Kurdish rebels massacre 21 Turks

ANKARA (R) — Kurdish rebels killed 21 Turkish villagers in three attacks in Turkey's troubled southeast at the weekend, the semi-official Anatolian news agency said Monday. The rebels, members of the Marxist Kurdish Workers Party (PKK), gunned down 10 civilians in the hamlet of Behmen in near Nusaybin in the south-eastern Mardin province Sunday night, the agency said. The attack followed Saturday's killing of 11 Turks, four of them women, in the hamlets of Tarakli and Uckenderle in Sirt province, about 45 kilometres from the Iraqi border. The rebels,

fighting for autonomy for Turkey's eight million Kurds, kidnapped three men as they left the two hamlets, which lie about 15 kilometres apart, the agency said. The weekend killings bring to 42 the number of Turkish civilians killed by Kurds this year and to nearly 1,000 those killed in the area since 1984.

Ethiopian Red Cross cuts ties with ICRC

ADDIS ABABA (AP) — Ethiopia's Red Cross Society has cut ties with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), citing its refusal to release drought relief supplies after the government expelled foreign aid workers from the war-torn north. ERCS Chairman Dawit Zewdie announced the break Sunday in a speech marking Red Cross Day and the 125th anniversary of the international Red Cross movement. "Since appealing indefinitely to ICRC for reconsideration of its stand has proved to be unrealistic and in light of the emergency situation involved, the Ethiopian Red Cross Society has deemed it necessary to disengage itself from the joint relief operation with ICRC," Dawit said. The Geneva-based, all-Swiss ICRC was part of a massive relief effort to save an estimated seven million Ethiopians from starvation following severe crop failures last year.

British tourist murdered in Turkey

ISTANBUL (R) — Two thieves stabbed to death a British tourist and stole £10 from his vehicle at the weekend near Marmaris, southern Turkey, police sources said Monday. The semi-official Anatolian news agency said two unemployed 18-year-old men, both former cake shop workers, would be charged with the murder of Peter Holden, aged 40, and with theft.

Kuwaiti paper urges expulsion of Shi'ites

KUWAIT (AP) — A Kuwaiti newspaper has called on the government to deport Kuwaiti Shi'ite Muslims who show allegiance to Iran in retaliation for terrorist acts for which they are widely blamed here. The call in the newspaper Al Ambar Sunday came a day after an explosion in downtown Kuwait, the second in 10 days. Kuwaitis who belong to the Shi'ite sect that predominates in Iran have been held responsible in the press. "If there is a small group which has abandoned national consensus by any other than this beloved land, it should be eradicated from the country," Al Ambar said in an editorial. The two recent explosions damaged the offices in Kuwait of the Saudi Arabian

Jordan contractors to form export council

By Rana Sabbagh
Reuter

AMMAN — Jordanian contractors, suffering from a decline in local construction, plan to set up an export council to tap new Arab markets, an official said Sunday.

"By setting up such a council, we hope to explore new markets abroad in the Middle East and Africa, especially in North Yemen, Iraq, Sudan and Mauritania," Jordan Contractors Association President Ali Abu Ragheb told Reuters.

The council would certify contractors and consultants eligible to bid for projects outside Jordan and offer advice and information

to match contractors and clients.

It would also help them form consortia where appropriate.

The association, which hopes government officials and private business will serve on the council, is to submit a study on the idea to Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai.

Abu Ragheb estimated that 25 of Jordan's 758 registered contracting companies and another 25 consultancy offices would qualify for and benefit from the proposed council.

Jordanian contractors have

seen a fall in local business with contracts worth \$953 million awarded in 1987 compared to \$1.1 billion the previous year, Abu Ragheb said.

More than 40 per cent of these contracts went to foreign companies, partly because of tied development loans.

Abu Ragheb said he hoped local firms would win at least half the \$140 million worth of road building contracts to be funded by a Japanese development loan provided to December.

The rest of the \$300 million credit will go on schools and irrigation works, including \$30 million for the Wahda Dam on the Yarmuk River on the Syrian border.

Abu Ragheb said local consortia would bid for parts of the dam work, Jordan's biggest capital project.

Ten foreign firms with local partners bid this month for work on a diversion tunnel. Officials hope work on the dam will begin later this year.



Ali Abu Ragheb

Iraq builds new oil pipeline

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iraq is building a new pipeline that will allow it to pump its oil through either Turkey or Saudi Arabia, boosting its ability to maintain exports vital to its war effort against Iran, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) reported Monday.

The respected weekly oil industry newsletter said the 640-kilometre, 106-centimetre pipeline will run parallel to an existing north-south pipeline running the length of the country.

The pipeline project will secure Iraq's ability to pump its oil exports safely out of the Gulf war zone, while Iran, its foe in the 7½-year-old Gulf war, has to send its tankers to run the gauntlet of Iraqi fighter-bombers through the waterway.

Strategic boost

That will be a major strategic boost for beleaguered Iraq. If other Gulf states boost their exports through new pipelines, as is likely, it would change the economic map of the region.

It would also remove the threat to the industrialized world if Iran closed the Strait of Hormuz, the only way in and out of the Gulf.

The new pipeline will hook into a network linking Iraqi oilfields with outlets across Saudi Arabia in the south and Turkey in the north, the weekly noted.

It will allow the Iraqis to switch all their exports through Saudi Arabia if Iranian forces and their Kurdish guerrilla allies operating in northeast Iraq threaten the northern pipelines into Turkey.

The Iraqis already have three pipelines linking their southern oilfields with Saudi Arabia's Red

Sea terminal of Yanbu and their northern oilfields with the Turkish port of Ceyhan on the Mediterranean.

These carry an estimated 2.5 million barrels of oil a day. Another 200,000 barrels a day are trucked across Jordan and Turkey.

The new pipeline, with a capacity of 900,000 barrels a day, was expected to be completed by 1990, the survey said.

That, with planned upgrading of the Saudi-Arabian link to 1.6 million barrels a day by the end of 1989, would boost Iraq's export capacity to around four million barrels a day by the end of the decade.

The Iraqi pipeline programme is one of the most extensive ever undertaken and, when completed, would be one of the most flexible in the world, oil industry sources reported.

The Iraqis began building their pipeline network several years ago after the war cut them off from their main export terminals in the northern Gulf and Syria closed a pipeline to the Mediterranean across its territory.

Syria, Iraq's main Arab ally, has been feuding with Iraq for eight years. The two countries are ruled by rival wings of the Baath Socialist Party.

In the early days of the war, Iraq's oil exports plummeted to around 650,000 barrels a day.

Now it is developing new oilfields in southern and central Iraq which industry experts say could boost production to around five million barrels a day by the end of the next decade.

The drive to boost exports is vital to Iraq. The war, which costs

it at least \$10 billion a year, has hiked its foreign debt to an estimated \$50 billion.

By next year, providing oil prices remain stable, Iraq could expect to earn \$15 billion from crude exports.

By contrast, Iran has pegged its anticipated oil revenue, on which it also relies to pay for its war effort, at only \$9 billion.

The Iraqi air force has been pounding Iran's oil industry and tankers in a bid to throttle its economic lifeline.

The war and the threat to shipping has touched off a frenzy of pipeline building and planning by Gulf states.

Saudi Arabia is upgrading its network. Iran is racing to build pipelines to its Arabian Sea coast to avoid the dangerous Gulf route.

Kuwait is considering an overland pipeline to Yanbu. Abu Dhabi is studying the possibility of one to the Arabian Sea, beyond the range of Iraq's marauding gunboats.

Low demand for tankers

All this will have a profound effect on the tanker market by sharply reducing the need for long-haul seaborne cargoes from the Gulf.

The Oslo-based International Association of Independent Tanker Owners, or Intertanko, said in a recent report that pipelines

they sold a total \$1.29 billion yen (\$493 million), and look ready to be net sellers for the entire month of April, brokers said.

In Japan, the fundamentals are good, the effects of a high yen have been digested and there are low interest rates, so stocks should continue to rise," said Yoshihiro Sawada, fund manager at Sanyo Securities Investment Trust Management.

"Domestic institutions will continue to wait for the Nikkei index to come off, but it would be hard for it to come off a great deal," said analyst Moryasu Tahara at Schroder Securities.

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Sports

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Bosman to pay \$12,500

THE HAGUE (R) — Dutch international striker John Bosman has paid French club Toulon 25,000 guilders (\$12,500) to settle a disputed transfer deal. Bosman's financial adviser, Ger Lagendijk, told reporters Monday that the top score with Ajax Amsterdam paid the sum on May 1 to cover Bosman's expenses after negotiations for his transfer to the French club broke down. Toulon took Bosman to court in Rotterdam last month alleging he was bound by negotiations conducted on his behalf by Lagendijk to sign a four-year contract to join Toulon next year. Bosman maintained no deal was struck and Toulon later agreed to seek an out-of-court settlement. Lagendijk Monday denied Dutch newspaper reports that he was paid about 200,000 guilders (\$100,000) for his part in arranging the transfer. "The amount was offered, but I said that it must be included as part of the player's contract," Lagendijk said. He said he had opposed the 25,000-guilder settlement with Toulon. "But he (Bosman) wanted to put the affair with Toulon to rest in order to prepare properly for his season with Ajax," Lagendijk said.

Strachan recalled to Scotland squad

LONDON (R) — Manchester United midfielder Gordon Strachan, exiled from the international scene for the past eight months, has been recalled to the Scotland squad for the Rous Cup triangular tournament later this month. Strachan was included by Scotland manager Andy Roxburgh Monday for the last two matches of the season against Colombia at Hampden Park May 17 and England at Wembley four days later. Strachan has not been selected since winning his 41st cap against Hungary last September. His inclusion is the only change from the squad which returned from Madrid last month with a goalless draw against Spain.

Jaguar wins championship

SILVERSTONE, England (R) — Jaguar scored its third successive World Sportscar Championship victory Sunday in a tight race against Mercedes. Two factory Jaguars and two Mercedes battled throughout the 1,000 kilometres test until Martin Brundle of Britain and his American partner Eddie Cheever edged home by 30 seconds. Mercedes were second and third, with World Championship leader Jean-Louis Schlesser of France and West German Jochen Mass finishing two laps ahead of team mates James Weaver of Britain and Mauro Baldi of Italy. The other Jaguar, shared by Johnny Dumfries of Britain and Dutchman Jan Lammers, ran out of fuel with just six laps of the 210-lap race remaining.

Danish international quits Rangers

GLASGOW (R) — Jan Bartram, Glasgow Rangers' Danish international defender, has quit the club after only four months in Scottish soccer. Bartram, who cost Rangers £180,000 (\$335,000) from Silkeborg in January, played only 14 games in the Scottish Premier Division. Bartram said Sunday he did not like the British style of football. "Maybe I can now go to a club in France or Germany," Bartram was in trouble last month when he allegedly made a critical attack on manager Graeme Souness in two Danish newspapers. The matter was later cleared up, but in recent weeks Bartram has not been a first team regular. Last week captain Graham Roberts was told he could leave the club after a heated dressing room row with Souness a few days earlier.

Smolarek joins Feyenoord

AMSTERDAM (R) — Polish striker Wlodzimierz Smolarek has left Eintracht Frankfurt and signed a three year contract with Feyenoord Rotterdam, officials of the Dutch first division soccer club said Monday. Smolarek, who has played for the West German side for the past two years, has been capped 60 times by his country and is the fifth recent signing by new coach Hans Kraay who is rebuilding Feyenoord for next season. The Rotterdam side finished sixth in the league and can only qualify for Europe next season if Ajax Amsterdam beat Mechelen of Belgium in the European Cup Winners' Cup final Wednesday. A Feyenoord spokesman said no money would be paid to Eintracht but the Dutch side were negotiating financial terms with the Polish soccer federation.

Jahangir beats Adarraga

VALKENSWARD, Netherlands (R) — Jahangir Khan looked in top form Sunday, easily winning the opening match of his campaign to regain the World Open Squash Championship. The Pakistani seemed untroubled by a recent wrist injury and brutally exposed Australian Austin Adarraga's tactical limitations to win his first round match 9-1, 9-0, 9-2 in 30 minutes. Jahangir is seeded number two to meet compatriot, arch rival and defending champion Jansher Khan in the final. Australians Chris Dittmar and Rodney Martin, ranked three and four in the world, are in Jahangir's half of the draw and each notched up comfortable wins in their opening matches. The left-winger Dittmar, beaten by Jansher in the World Open final last year and the Paris Open 11 days ago, defeated Swedish number one Anders Wahlstett 9-7, 9-4, 9-2.

BASEBALL STANDINGS

NEW YORK (R) — Standing of the major league baseball teams after games played Sunday:

Team	Won	Lost	Pct	GB
New York Yankees	20	11	.645	—
Detroit Tigers	18	11	.620	1
Milwaukee Brewers	17	11	.607	1 1/2
Cleveland Indians	17	12	.586	2
Boston Red Sox	16	12	.571	2 1/2
Toronto Bluejays	13	17	.433	6 1/2
Baltimore Orioles	4	25	.137	15

Team	Won	Lost	Pct	GB
Oakland A's	23	7	.766	—
Chicago White Sox	14	14	.500	8
Kansas City Royals	14	16	.466	9
Texas Rangers	13	16	.448	9 1/2
Seattle Mariners	14	18	.437	10
Minnesota Twins	11	17	.393	11
California Angels	12	19	.387	11 1/2

Team	Won	Lost	Pct	GB
New York Mets	21	7	.750	—
Pittsburgh Pirates	19	10	.655	2 1/2
Chicago Cubs	15	14	.517	6 1/2
Montreal Expos	14	14	.500	7
St. Louis Cardinals	12	17	.413	9 1/2
Philadelphia Phillies	10	17	.370	10 1/2

Team	Won	Lost	Pct	GB
Los Angeles Dodgers	18	9	.666	—
Houston Astros	16	12	.571	2 1/2
Cincinnati Reds	14	16	.466	5 1/2
San Francisco Giants	14	16	.466	5 1/2
San Diego Padres	10	18	.357	8 1/2
Atlanta Braves	7	20	.259	11

Nervous European League leaders shuffle towards title

By Reuters

MONACO, Porto, AC Milan and Bruges all edged a point closer to their respective league titles at the weekend while European Cup finalists PSV Eindhoven romped to a 4-0 win in their final Dutch League match.

As the league leaders of France, Portugal, Italy and Belgium proceeded a little nervously towards their glittering prizes, striker Wim Kieft underlined his growing reputation as a deadly marksman with a hat-trick in PSV's win over DS '79.

The Dutch international, who scored four against Sparta Rotterdam last week, took his tally for the season to 29 as uninhibited PSV, who clinched the championship weeks ago, continued their preparations for a treble.

They face Roda JC Kerkrade in the Dutch Cup final Thursday and Portugal's Benfica in the European Cup final in Stuttgart May 25.

Elsewhere, performances were not so convincing, which helped the enthralling championship tussle in Italy boil down to the last day of the season.

AC Milan, who went top last week with a 3-2 win at champions and then leaders Napoli, could have secured the trophy Sunday as Napoli, without the injured Diego Maradona for the first time this season, lost again, this time to Fiorentina.

But despite inspiration from their talented Dutchman Ruud Gullit, Milan were also forced to settle for a goalless draw by a Juventus side desperate to avoid

defeat and keep alive their hopes of a place in Europe next season.

The results left Porto with

four 0-0 draw with Cadiz.

Reshaped Benfica, resting their best players before the European Cup final, also struggled for something better when the season started but it is not too bad."

Bilbao ensured their place with

their third goal, Diego started to cry," Napoli director Luciano Moggi told reporters after the defeat. Maradona, missing with a thigh injury, drove off immediately and would only say: "I am heartbroken."

"We have no hope now,"

Napoli's Brazilian striker Careca

said. "We can only hope in

Como. We have lost the title."

There was less drama in Portu

gal where Porto were left needing two points from their five remaining matches to clinch their ninth Portuguese crown after being held to a goalless draw at Penafiel.

In France, Monaco could draw

only 1-1 at Nantes — a result

which kept them five points clear

of Bordeaux with four matches

remaining.

Mechelen were held 1-1 by

Ghent Saturday to remain three points adrift of Belgian first division leaders Bruges with two games to go. Bruges also drew 1-1.

NBA Playoff

Pistons, Bulls and Hawks advance to Eastern Conference semifinals

NEW YORK (AP) — Andre Agassi won his fourth match in 45 hours, beating Slobodan Zivojinovic 7-5, 7-6, (7-2), 7-5 Sunday in the final of the tournament of Champions (TOC).

It was too excited to get tired,"

said Agassi, who has moved up to

No. 15 in the world rankings. "I

was a little fatigued, but I came

out and gave it my best shot."

Agassi, who didn't lose a set in

the tournament, used his powerful groundstrokes to keep his Yugoslav opponent on the run

before a crowd of 12,898 at the West Side Tennis Club.

Zivojinovic, who relies heavily on his booming serve, did not take advantage of his main weapon. He had only three aces — the same as Agassi — and was broken seven times while getting only 51 per cent of his first serves in.

"I was feeling a little tired,"

said Zivojinovic, ranked 31st in the world. "But I am happy with the way I played all week."

Agassi earned \$127,600 for the

victory, his biggest paycheck

since turning professional in May 1986. Zivojinovic, 24, received \$63,800.

Agassi, who improved his 1988

record on clay to 12-0, won the

first three games of the match and

served for the set at 5-3. But

Zivojinovic broke him and then

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Army restores calm in Karachi

KARACHI (Agencies) — Soldiers riding jeeps mounted with machine guns patrolled the nearly deserted streets of about a third of the city Monday after ethnic rioting reportedly killed 48 people and injured 200.

No renewed fighting was reported Monday, but hospitals said they received eight more bodies from fierce gunbattles that killed 25 people Sunday, including four policemen, a 10-year-old boy and an infant hit by a stray bullet.

Traffic was sparse and many shops were closed in central Karachi, Pakistan's largest city, as a round-the-clock curfew in the east, north and west sectors took effect.

This port city of over seven million people has been a seething hotbed of frustration between Pathans, who trace their roots to northern Pakistan, and Mohajirs, Indian Muslims who immigrated to Pakistan after partition in 1947.

Officials said troops were deployed in 15 of the dusty city's 42 precincts, apparently after police failed to quell street battles and marauding bands of gunmen.

A minor traffic accident in western Orangi township April 30 sparked the bloody clashes between the Pathans and Mohajirs, which soon spread to other neighbourhoods where the groups live side by side.

People were ordered to stay in their homes, mostly cinderblock hovels, and the streets were devoid of the usual hullock carts, hawkers of fresh mangoes and nuts, and the sidewalk barbers and sandalmakers.

Hulks of burned out shops and houses, overturned trucks and

charred three-wheeled rickshaws still littered the streets.

Earlier in the week, authorities had lifted curfews for one hour around 7 p.m. for iftar and during another hour usually around 3 a.m. for suhoor.

But after Sunday's clashes, the army allowed no exceptions to the curfews, forcing people indoors until further notice.

More than 200 people died in Pathan-Mohajir clashes in the last two months, of 1986.

Reports in some local newspapers said the trouble started at Khwaja Ajmer Nagri when a man tore up a greeting card bearing the picture of Mohajir community leader Altaf Hussain. Some residents said the clashes started after some gunmen fired into a street Saturday night.

Sunday's violence was the worst since Sind Chief Minister Ghous Ali Shah resigned April 6 after critics charged that he had failed to control acts of lawlessness in the volatile province.

Shah was replaced by Akhtar Ali Kazi who said maintenance of the peace would be his first priority.

Kazi, in a televised interview Sunday night, promised stern action against what he called a handful of troublemakers and said the situation would be normal in a few days.

"The government is engaged in finding the real causes of the riots and taking steps to stop them."

19 Soviets held after forming new party

MOSCOW (R) — Police were holding 19 Soviet citizens Monday after a meeting to proclaim formation of a new opposition party, a spokesman for the group reported.

Fourteen detentions came late Sunday after the second day of a conference of over 100 people from around the country who met in Moscow to form an alternative to the Communist Party, to be called the Democratic Union, Yuri Mityunov told Reuters by telephone.

Another five people were detained Monday, when police searched the headquarters of the independent journal Glasnost, where members of the newly proclaimed opposition party planned to meet, the wife of publisher Sergei Grigoryants said.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, who has made democratization of the party and Soviet

gathered Sunday evening and stopped them as they came out. They originally detained 23 people, all but 14 were released after questioning.

"The ones held overnight were from out of town and they refused to leave Moscow," Mityunov said. He did not know whether they had been charged with any crime.

Other members of the new party had been meeting elsewhere in Moscow on the same evening, but he did not know whether there were other detentions.

The Communist Party is the only political force in the country recognised under the Soviet Constitution, and analysts said a new organisation could have little or no effect unless it gained official recognition.

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"The government is engaged in finding the real causes of the riots and taking steps to stop them."

that we have attained for the good of the entire country."

But Aquino did not rule out a visit by Marcos' children, Irene Imelda and Ferdinand Jr. She said the family must make a formal request for them to attend to give the government time to prepare security. She said no request had been made.

"The reason why I would like to do this on a formal basis is because if any of the Marcoses do come here, then this government naturally is obliged to protect them," she said.

Marcos' three children fled the country along with the deposed president following the civilian-military uprising that toppled his administration on Feb. 25, 1986. The Aquino government cancelled passports of all members of Marcos' immediate family and has barred them from returning.

"But I think the great majority are concerned that, first of all, we preserve whatever gains we have attained during the past two years," she said. "And it is very necessary to preserve the stability

of the President."

"I know that some people were upset that he was not allowed to return," Aquino said in her weekly radio programme, "Ask the President."

"I know that the great majority are concerned that, first of all, we preserve whatever gains we have attained during the past two years," she said. "And it is very necessary to preserve the stability

of the President."

He was particularly pleased that Prime Minister Jacques Chirac's signals to the right-wing camp had obviously had no success, the statement said.

He also welcomed the fact that parts of the bourgeoisie had apparently voted for Mitterrand. "This politically responsible attitude raises hopes that rightist populism and rightist extremism will receive a clear rejection in other European countries," he said.

The Guardian newspaper said in an editorial that Mitterrand's brilliant campaign brought a victory which was not only deserved but was also in his country's best interests as well as a relief for France's Western allies.

Chirac was not different from most other politicians, including Mitterrand, in seeking to make a virtue out of opportunity.

"But the nakedness of the loser's ambitions and his readiness to mortgage French interests at home and abroad in the pursuit of personal power finally outweighed his undisputed talents and phenomenal energy."

"France faces a series of difficult problems domestically and externally and will be a better place to deal with them under a leader who prefers conciliation to confrontation," it said.

ROME — Social Democrat leader Antonio Cariglia, whose party is among the five in Italy's ruling coalition, said in a statement: "It is a splendid victory for someone who has been able to reconcile the principles of reformist socialism with the national interests of the French Republic. We can learn something in Italy from Mitterrand's plan to bring together centrists and reformists."

BONN — Hans-Joachim Vogel, leader of West Germany's opposition Social Democrats, said he had sent a congratulatory message to Mitterrand, saying: "Your victory is a great encouragement for social justice, German-French cooperation, for progress towards European unity and international solidarity."

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